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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/553,290	11/17/2005	Rodney Mark Gibson	PI450 USA	8635
7590 O M (Sam) Zaghmout Bio Intellectual Property Service (Bio Ips) 8509 Kernon Ct Lorton, VA 22079				
EXAMINER				
LAUX, JESSICA L				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3635				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
10/14/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/553,290

Applicant(s)

GIBSON, RODNEY MARK

Examiner

JESSICA LAUX

Art Unit

3635

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 October 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The references cited in the Search Report for PCT/NZ2005/000039 have been considered, but will not be listed on any patent resulting from this application because they were not provided on a separate list in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1). In order to have the references printed on such resulting patent, a separate listing, preferably on a PTO/SB/08A and 08B form, must be filed within the set period for reply to this Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite in that it fails to point out what is included or excluded by the claim language. This claim is an omnibus type claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2, 5-8, 11-12, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ciotti (20030051417).

1. Ciotti discloses a building construction having a main portion (generally 10, including 16, 14), a roof portion (25), and a floor portion (24), the roof portion and the floor portion each being attached to the main portion by way of a respective pivot connection or connections (as seen in figures 1b-d; paragraphs 0024-0025), the

building construction being formed such that the main portion, the roof portion and the floor portion can be arranged with respect to one another such that the building construction is substantially in the shape of a box-like freight container in which the roof portion and/or the floor portion provide(s) structural integrity, the structural integrity being such that the building construction can be picked up by a crane, and/or arranged in a freight vehicle with a normally loaded freight container on top of it, in either case without causing structural damage to the building construction, and wherein the building construction can be, after being freighted to a desired site, assembled by swinging the roof portion out from the main portion, and by swinging the floor portion out from the main portion, not necessarily in that order, but in each case by way of the pivot connections, such that the roof and floor portions become at least part of the roof and floor of the building construction respectively when the building construction is installed on site (paragraphs 0006, 0023-0025).

2. A building construction according to claim 1, wherein there is a second roof portion and a second floor portion arranged and able to function in similar fashion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions but at an opposite side of the main portion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions (as seen in the figures).

5. A building construction according to claim 1, anyone of the preceding claims, wherein there is a second roof portion and a second floor portion arranged and able to function in similar fashion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions but at an opposite side of the main portion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions, and

wherein the floor portions can be outside of the respective roof portions when the building construction is in a disassembled state (as seen in the figures).

6. A building construction according to claim 1, wherein there is a second roof portion and a second floor portion arranged and able to function in similar fashion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions but at an opposite side of the main portion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions, and wherein the building construction is, when in a disassembled state, substantially in the shape of a standard freight container (as seen in the figures; paragraphs 0006, 0023).

7. A building construction according to claim 1, wherein there is a second roof portion and a second floor portion arranged and able to function in similar fashion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions but at an opposite side of the main portion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions (as seen in the figures), and wherein the building construction is, when in a disassembled state, substantially in the shape of a standard ISO freight container (paragraph 0023).

8. A building construction according to claim 1, wherein there is a second roof portion and a second floor portion arranged and able to function in similar fashion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions but at an opposite side of the main portion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions (as seen in the figures), and wherein the building construction is, when in a disassembled state, substantially in the shape of a standard ISO 40 foot freight container (paragraph 0023).

11. A building construction according to claim 1, including framing and panels wherein the panels can be fitted between parts of the framing to create internal and/or external walls (as seen in the figures; paragraphs 0027-0029).

12. A building construction according to claim 1, wherein the structural integrity is such that the building construction can, when in a disassembled state, be picked up by the crane at or adjacent four corners of the building construction without causing structural damage to the building construction (paragraphs 0006, 0023).

13. A building construction according to claim 1, wherein the building construction is at least partially clad when in a disassembled state (as seen in the figures, clad at least by elements 12, 14).

15. A building construction according to claim 1, substantially as herein described with reference to figures 1-10.

16. A building construction according to claim 1, wherein the building construction is certified as a shipping container for use on container ships (paragraphs 0004-0005).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ciotti (20030051417) in view of Abler (20060185262).

3. Ciotti discloses the building construction according to claim 1, wherein there is a second roof portion and a second floor portion arranged and able to function in similar fashion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions but at an opposite side of the main portion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions (as seen in the figures), but is silent regarding locking means for the floor and wall portions such that they can each be locked in a substantially vertical orientation when the building construction is in a disassembled state for freighting.

Abler discloses a building construction having hinged wall portions for forming an expanded floor where in a closed position the building is an ISO shipping container, and further discloses that the portions have locking means for freighting (paragraph 0016).

At the time the invention was made it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the building of Ciotti to have the locking means as disclosed by Abler to provide a secure container for shipping.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ciotti (20030051417) in view of Morris (5966956).

4. Ciotti discloses the building construction according to claim 1, wherein there is a second roof portion and a second floor portion arranged and able to function in similar fashion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions but at an opposite side of the main portion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions (as seen in the figures), but does not disclose that the roof portions can be outside of the respective floor portions when the building construction is in a disassembled state, but instead discloses that they are inside the floor portions.

Morris discloses a building construction have expandable floor and roof portions where when in a non-expanded position resemble a shipping container. Morris further discloses that the roof portions can be outside the respective floor portions when the building construction is in a disassembled state (figure 3).

At the time the invention was made it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to pursue know techniques of sidewall placement (such as that disclosed by Morris) and employ them to achieve the predictable results of a floor and roof portions that expand. Further it is noted that whether the roof portions are above or under the floor portions in the disassembled state appears to be a mere matter of obvious design choice as applicant has not disclose that either position provides an advantage, or solves a stated problem, but rather discloses either embodiment to be acceptable. As the prior art clearly discloses either position to be know it would have been obvious to pick one for applicants own invention.

Claims 9-10, 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ciotti (20030051417) in view of WO9802626.

9-10, 12. Ciotti discloses the building construction according to claim 1, wherein there is a second roof portion and a second floor portion arranged and able to function in similar fashion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions but at an opposite side of the main portion to the first mentioned roof and floor portions (as seen in the figures),

But does not disclose a removable corner protector arranged over at least part of an external edge or along a different external edge of the disassembled construction to

provide a measure of protection and/or strength to the construction when it is being transported.

WO9802626 discloses foldable, portable building construction comprising removable corner protector 26 to aid in moving the building when being transported (as seen in figure 16).

At the time the invention was made it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the building construction of Ciotti do include the corner protectors of WO9802626 to aid in safely and efficiently transporting the construction, such that the building construction can, when in a disassembled state, be picked up by the crane at or adjacent four corners of the building construction without causing structural damage to the building construction.

Claims 14, 17, 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ciotti (20030051417) in view of Morris (5966956) and referenced by Fagnoni (4534141), Howroyd (4464868), or Mears et al. (882573).

14, 17, 18. Ciotti in view of Morris disclose the building as presented above, but do not disclose that the construction is formed such that when the roof portion is swung out to an installed position by way of its pivot connection or connections the roof portion is angled upwards away from the main portion so that parts of the roof portion most remote from the main portion are substantially higher than parts of the roof portion immediately adjacent the main portion, and wherein the position of contact between the

roof portion and the main portion is inherently covered by the roof portion to substantially assist in resisting rain water entering the building construction when the building construction is completely installed.

Fagnoni, Howroyd or Mears all disclose portable container building constructions with foldable wall extensions where the gap between the main portion and the expandable wall portion is covered to resist rain water from entering the building construction.

Further it is noted that the prior art cited all disclose expandable roof portions that are angled to aid in rain water run off and avoid rain water collection on the roof, however they do not expressly disclose that the roof portions are angled such the most remote portion is higher than the parts of the roof portion adjacent the main portion. However, it common and well known have different designed angled roof portions to affect the aesthetic design and interior functionality of a space, whether they be angled up or down.

Therefore it would have been obvious as the time the invention was made to modify the roof portions of Ciotti in view of Morris to be angle upwardly away where the most remote portion of the roof portion is higher to provide a certain aesthetic appeal to the building construction.

Additionally in view of the referenced prior art to Fagnoni, Howroyd or Mears, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to modify the disclosed construction to have overlapping sections at the connection between the main portion and the roof portion.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JESSICA LAUX whose telephone number is (571)272-8228. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday, 9:00am to 5:00pm (est).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Chilcot can be reached on 571-272-6777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Richard E. Chilcot, Jr./
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3635

/J. L./
Examiner, Art Unit 3635